

Dear Ian,

11/3/90

Thanks for the instalment on the Gordievsky book. I've not gotten it and haven't decided whether or not I will. It happens that also in today's mail was an Anthony Lewis column on the book and Harry Dexter White, captioned Warned-Over Smear. Lewis notes that much of the book is credited to published sources. This confirms your belief that much had been published earlier.

With this the nature of the book I wonder why the defector waited so long to write his book and then drew on so many public sources. It does not have the best prospects without what is major and new because so much has already been published.

But on the other hand, he and the publisher may have decided that there is enough interest in the subject for the book to have adequate sales at worst.

It is being offered as a freebie by the Book of the Month Club to members who get new members.

I found that where one would expect specificity what The Times printed is vague on source of authority rather often. It may all be true but I did not get that impression.

We have missed your visits but there is no point in having a country place without using and enjoying it.

Hope you can make it soon again.

Our best,

Harold

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November 1st, 1990

Dear Harold and Lil,

I am enclosing an article that appeared in *The Times* of London on Cairncross as the Fith Man. I am a little sceptical about Gordievsky, since it seems that he has tended to recapitulate much of what has already been published and then to present it as his own. But the excerpt is interesting and you may enjoy it.

We are sorry that we have not been in touch with you for some time. Now that we have our country place at Bryce Mountain, we tend to go over there every weekend we can, which means that we do not make it up to Frederick very much! I trust you will forgive us and appreciate how nice it is for us to use our country house during this period of Indian summer. We just relax or take walks. I also bought myself a bicycle, so I can get out on the country roads.

In September, I took a raft trip down the Colorado through the Grand Canyon. The trip took a week, rafting and hiking during the day and camping on the river bank at night. I thoroughly enjoyed it. Cris very wisely stayed at home, thinking that it would be better for me to go by myself so I would not have to worry about her.

I wonder what exactly will happen in the Middle East. Bush has been making a lot of bellicose noises, but at the same time I think he has realized, wisely, that there could be many casualties if he sends the troops into Iraq. So I sense something of a stalemate. Also, the budget mess here was very damaging for the President, and meant that the members of Congress ended up looking like a bunch of idiots.

Lil, the IRS is still spinning around on those little trusts for the children. Sometimes I get a letter asking me to pay some money; another time they send me a refund. It is good to know that they worry about the little people to such an extent--it would never do for them to follow up on the super-rich!

Crispina joins me in sending all our love and very best wishes to you both. We hope we will be able to make plans to visit you in the not too distant future!

Yours ever,

Len